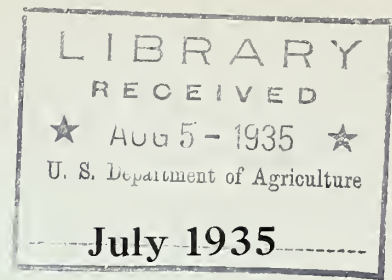


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Extension Service Review

In This Issue

County Agents—Today and Tomorrow

A Tribute to Their Work

By C. W. WARBURTON

Progress Under the AAA

By CHESTER C. DAVIS

Farm Programs on a Hundred Fronts

By C. B. SMITH

ISSUED MONTHLY
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NO. 7



In This Issue

DEDICATED to county agricultural agents and the outstanding work they have done on the farm programs of the past year, the first part of this issue is intended to express appreciation of the agents' accomplishments and to give a brief record of their activities. Other articles, as usual, deal with home economics, club work, and general agricultural activities.

IN THE first story, Director C. W. Warburton reviews the part the county agent has played in helping agriculture strike the trail to recovery and takes a look at what the future holds for the agent. Progress has been made no less on the old established educational programs than on the emergency activities.

COUNTY AGENTS assisted the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and farmers to inaugurate or continue the various production-control programs. Evidence of the effectiveness of the educational and organization work is found in the 3 million contracts signed by producers.

AN UNFORESEEN emergency which required quick action of farmers and all agricultural agencies was the drought. The multitude of activities in which agents participated to help meet this problem are recounted in "Drought Diary of a Modern Agent."

MONEY and credit have always been important. They were even more so during the past year and a half because credit was made more easily available and less costly to farmers.

DO YOU WANT to know how to get busy mothers to attend meetings? A Maine home demonstration agent tells how she solved this problem. Read it for yourself in "Old Meetings Given New Appeal."

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FARMERS wanted to know how to combat chinch bug invasions, fight crop and livestock diseases, feed livestock efficiently, and how to lower costs in all phases of farming. Dr. C. B. Smith, assistant director, tells how county agents helped farmers meet these and a horde of other ever-present problems. More than 3½ million farm families and 600,000 nonfarm families made some use of the information available from county agents or State extension services.

On The Calendar

American Association of Agricultural College Editors, Ithaca, N. Y., August 19-24.

Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., September 15-21.

American Dietetics Association, Cleveland, Ohio, October.

National Recreation Association, Atlantic City, N. J., October 1-4.

Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Portland, Oreg., October 5-12.

National Dairy Exposition, St. Louis, Mo., October 12-19.

American Royal Livestock and Horse Show, Kansas City, Mo., October 19-26.

Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Washington, D. C., November 18-20.

National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill., November 29-December 7.

THE NEW PAGE for agricultural, home demonstration, and 4-H club agents appears this month. Look to the page "My Point of View" for ideas from extension agents all over the Nation.

THREE important developments in the AAA programs, results of the past year's activities, and the present status of agriculture are discussed by C. C. Davis, administrator, in the article on "Progress under the AAA." A table of salient facts regarding agriculture and the production-control programs accompanies the

story.

ALTHOUGH soils, forestry, and housing may seem unrelated at first glance, the various programs embracing these factors are aimed largely at one goal—keeping the farm home intact. In these programs, county agents continued to play an important part. Relief and rehabilitation also enter into this problem as described in "Saving Soils and Farm Homes."

THE EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW is issued monthly by the EXTENSION SERVICE of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The matter contained in the REVIEW is published by direction of the Secretary of Agriculture as administrative information required for the proper transaction of the public business. The REVIEW seeks to supply to workers and cooperators of the Department of Agriculture engaged in extension activities, information of especial help to them in the performance of their duties, and is issued to them free by law. Others may obtain copies of the REVIEW from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 5 cents a copy, or by subscription at the rate of 50 cents a year, domestic, and 75 cents, foreign. Postage stamps will not be accepted in payment.

C. W. Warburton, Director

C. B. Smith, Assistant Director

L. A. Schlup, Acting Editor

County Agents—Today and Tomorrow

A Tribute to What They Have Done; What the Future Holds for Them

C. W. WARBURTON

Director of Extension Work

INCREASED farm income, a better living for a larger number of farm families, a growth in rural leadership, and an active and greatly enlarged cooperative spirit among farm folk—all are evident when one compares the year 1934 with 1933.

Farm relief measures, including programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Farm Credit Administration, and drought relief agencies, meant that many severely stricken farmers regained their footing. With these programs, in the face of the most extensive drought in the history of the Nation, the farm situation in many sections steadily improved.

To the 3,355 men engaged in county-agent work in some 2,825 counties throughout the United States the results were ample compensation for a year of incessant labor.

The county agent played a major role in 1934, an advancing the administration measures to relieve a stricken agriculture. In every agricultural county, his office was the point of contact for the farmers and the many agencies engaged in meeting emergency situations. He was the farmers' representative through whom they made known their situations and needs. His was the responsibility of dealing with farm people through local leaders, of organizing the work in order that pressing situations could be met quickly and effectively. He helped the people understand the economic problems and how they might overcome them by cooperating with the administration.

The far-flung measures to adjust production and marketing, to relieve credit emergencies, to alleviate the host of problems that came with the drought, to help rural people in distress—these, coupled with the long-established educational activities, were the county agent's projects, his program of work. The county agent is happy that the farmers have advanced so far out of the depths. He is proud of the part he played. The county agent is eager to work with the farmers

next year and in the years to come in holding their gains and in striving for a balanced agriculture.

Traditional Activities Continue

The various adjustment programs where basic commodities were important took at least 50 percent of the county agent's time. Where drought was an added emergency, many county agents gave as high as 80 percent of their time to this and the adjustment activities. That, of course, is as it should be for the county agent is the Government's front line representative in the emergency measures which concern farmers and the general public.

In many counties, the agent naturally could not give as much personal attention as formerly to existing extension programs, but his office was still the place where farmers got wanted information on the myriad problems of farm, barn, and market. Local volunteer leaders also helped, even continuing many demonstrations which were part of the

long-time extension program. Extension specialists carried on as never before in supplying farmers with the helps needed. On the whole, the county agents and other extension workers succeeded remarkably well in continuing the projects so helpful in the maintenance of efficient farming methods.

Negro agents in the South continued their work of helping Negro farmers to provide better clothing, food, and housing for their families by use of economical and improved methods and assisted in explaining the various emergency programs to eligible producers.


The enlarged activities of the Farm Credit Administration, as well as some parts of the adjustment programs, in a large sense reinforced many phases of current extension work. For example, the use of economic outlook information in encouraging production adjustment of other than basic commodities, farm accounts, the selection of land for the particular purpose for which it is best suited, the larger planting of legumes

(Continued on page 96)

To County Agents:

Without words that might appear extravagant, I cannot truly express appreciation of your work. The record of agriculture's start toward recovery, as a result of the programs in which you are assisting, will stand forever as a monument to your energy, sincerity, and loyal work. Not only your assistance in the emergency programs but your help on long-established educational activities enabled farmers in general to meet and partially solve the many problems of the past year. The record of 1934 and other years assures us that whatever part in the agricultural program may be delegated to you will rest in capable hands. My heartiest congratulations on a job well done—and best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,


Director of Extension Work.

En Route to Stabilized Production

County Agents Train Leaders, Explain Details, and Help Organize for Adjustment Programs

IN ASSISTING farmers and their production-control committees through the maze of business connected with the adjustment programs, county agents are helping them to hold the gains made and to further stabilize farming on a profitable basis. In this way, agents are giving noteworthy service in a cooperative farm program which touches every nook and corner of the Nation.

With the programs of 1933 and 1934 a matter of history, and with the 1935 programs to stabilize production well advanced, farmers still look to the county agent for assistance and advice in understanding the rules and regulations, keeping straight the various records, and in executing properly the details of adjustment. The agent is the established local representative of the United States Department of Agriculture and the farmers. As such, his office has become an information center and clearing house for all adjustment programs in the county.

The year 1934 saw the enlargement and extension of the program for the adjustment of production. The Bankhead Act and the Kerr-Smith Act, as requested by the producers of cotton and tobacco, were incorporated into the adjustment pro-

grams for these commodities. The first corn-hog adjustment campaign swung into action early in 1934. These activities are continuing, and the Wheat Belt is now in the midst of starting its new program to keep wheat production under control.

Contacting Millions of Farmers

County agents, supervisors, and the many local agricultural leaders cooperating with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, are giving rural people economic facts, helping them to understand the need for adjustment, organizing and training committeemen, showing producers how to meet the requirements of adjustment contracts, and helping local committees and associations to administer the program.

The best measure of the size of the undertaking and the response of farmers to the appeal for adjustment of production is the number of adjustment contracts entered into with the Secretary of Agriculture. The Agricultural Adjustment Administration records show the following number of contracts signed for the 1934 major programs: Corn-hogs, 1,155,300; cotton, 1,200,000; wheat, 577,254; and tobacco, 289,106.

Benefit payments of about 446 million dollars in connection with the various 1934 production-control programs and the payments due on this year's adjustment are helping farmers to weather the economic crisis. They not only provide cash but a form of crop insurance. Their value to the farmer and the way they have improved business conditions in the agricultural regions are common knowledge.

How was it possible to obtain the desired results in a Nation-wide cooperative enterprise, the scope of which is shown by these more than 3 million contracts?

Of course, the merit and appropriateness of the various adjustment programs were evident. But several million farmers had to be reached. These men wanted to know the plan for the adjustment program, details of the contract, why adjustments were necessary, and the economic facts back of the program. The agents, assisted in 1934 by more than 118,000 local leaders, gave them this information. These committeemen were, for the most part, trained by county agents and were paid from funds of the production-control associations taken out of benefit payments. Carloads of forms were distributed, explained, collected, corrected, and sent forward.

(Continued on page 95)



At right is a group of cotton farmers clustered around the assistant county agent on the courthouse lawn in Shelby County, Tenn., to secure their benefit-payment checks. Above is the Boone County, Iowa, corn-hog allotment committee busily checking contracts in the county agent's office.



Drought Diary of a Modern Agent

A Chronological Story of the Assistance Given During the 1934 Rain Famine

MAY 15—No rain.

May 30—No rain. Looks like short crop. Agricultural Adjustment has liberalized rulings on use of contracted acres to permit growth of more feed and forage. Must get out letter to committeemen and news stories.

June 4—Still no rain, but I'm flooded with inquiries from farmers in regard to best crops to plant for emergency feed. Glad I got that list from the extension agronomist today. It helps. Wrote news story on that subject and also about the free use of contracted acres for pasture.

June 15—Cattle-buying program being extended to more States. Wonder if they'll take some of those that this county will not be able to feed.

June 16—Credit Administration and AAA are making seed available for emergency plantings; credit being extended. Understand direct relief may be necessary in some sections.

July 3—County declared secondary drought area today.

July 5—Been appointed county drought director and secretary of county drought committee. Have to keep all records and conduct all correspondence, help committee plan and execute drought work.

July 12—Applications coming in from farmers who want to sell cattle.

July 16—Bought 1,200 cattle today. Farmers have no pasture. The cattle will go east for grazing and will be slaughtered and canned later for use of Surplus Relief Corporation. Good idea. Leave them here and they'll starve. But, boy! All those vouchers, appraisals, records. Some job!

July 20—No rain. Getting quite a few requests from distressed farmers for certificates authorizing them to ship in livestock feed at reduced rates.

August 17—Have been giving some farmers help on plans for better water supply. Lots of interest in construction of ponds, conservation of spring water, drilling deep wells, etc.

The editors admit that this diary is fictitious. Probably no one agent did all of the things our "average agent" tells you about herein.

But a majority of them performed most of these tasks, and the accompanying pages from the "average" county agent's drought diary give you as complete a chronological account of the national picture as possible in the allotted space.

August 30—Had a sprinkle of rain. Been too busy to keep diary up this summer. In past week I've given nine trench and temporary silo demonstrations.

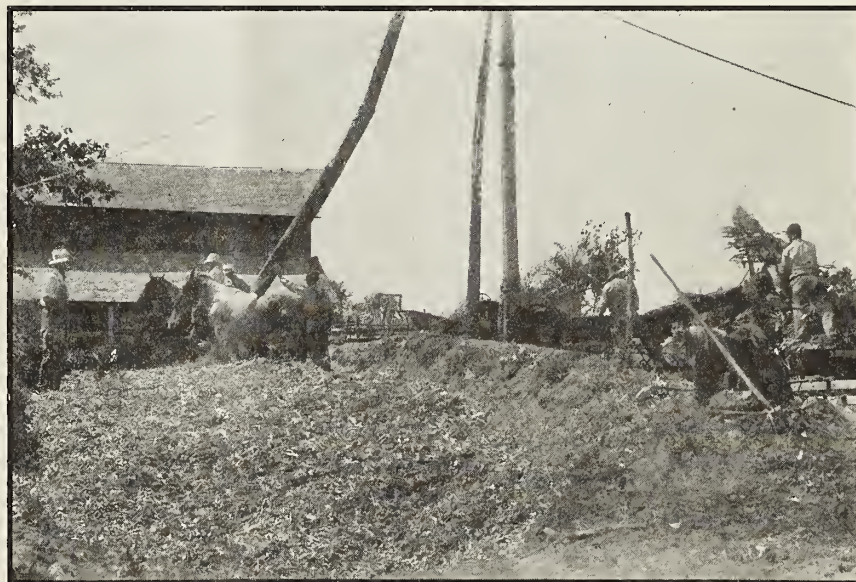


This "pen of ribs" in the Kansas City, Kans., stockyards, bought by the Government and taken off the range, were later slaughtered and canned for relief purposes.

Wrote story today about plans for such silos being available at office. Farmers are using silos to conserve stunted corn and other feed.

September 8—Must make survey of livestock numbers and available feed supplies on farms, State director informed drought committee today. Committee also is passing on applications for feed loans from FCA. State director says we're supposed to "secure balance between feed supplies and livestock num-

(Continued on page 96)



Thousands of farmers constructed trench or other types of silos from instructions obtained from county agents. These silos conserved much livestock feed that would otherwise have been of little value or would have been wasted.



The Farm Program on a Hundred Fronts

C. B. SMITH

Assistant Director, Extension Service

ALTHOUGH more was heard about the new or emergency programs in which county agents cooperated, extension work has progressed in the last year and a half as it has in the past, on literally a hundred fronts. The trying times through which farmers have passed in the last few years have made them more eager than ever for information on better marketing, more efficient management, insect control, economical feeding, and many other practices which will enable them to make an extra dollar of profit or lighten the burden under which they labor.

The many emergency activities prevented county agents from spending as much time on crop and livestock production, horticulture, poultry, and similar educational projects as in past years, but many of these demonstrations have been continued by local leaders. Agents also have continued to disseminate timely information on agriculture, home economics, and 4-H clubs through the newspapers.

Reports of county agents indicate that about 3,566,000 farm families were influenced by some phase of the extension program. This figure includes both agricultural and home-economics work and is an increase of more than 900,000 over 1933. Nonfarm families making use of extension information totaled 638,750, nearly triple the number in the previous year.

Use 60,000 Tons of Poison

The clouds of grasshoppers and the hordes of chinch bugs which plagued farmers in some of the North Central and Western States last year were fought with every resource of county, State, and Federal forces. Nearly 60,000 tons of poison bait for grasshoppers were distributed, and in the 6 States in which chinch bugs were a real menace, 5,340,000



A group of farmers and the county agent (upper left) plan the community program. County agent (above) describes good points of a beef bull to farmers who met at neighbor's farm in Scott County, Va., to discuss breeding and management methods.

gallons of creosote and other oils were used in the warfare. It is estimated that as a result of the poison distributed and instructions given by the county agents and specialists 20 million acres of crops were protected from these insect invaders.

In addition to the grasshopper and chinch-bug control campaigns, farmers were told how to fight the many other insects which annually perplex fruit growers, gardeners, and general farmers.

As a result of the reduction in crop acreages involved in the adjustment programs, farmers wanted to use every precaution to insure productive crops on the acres remaining in cultivation on their farms. Consequently, county agents received more than the usual number of calls from farmers and gardeners for instructions which would be helpful in preventing loss and spoilage from blights, rots, and other plant diseases.

Plans laid in the drought States for the distribution of emergency seed for spring planting gave county agents an opportunity to work with extension pathologists in a wholesale seed-grain-treatment program.

Livestock disease control was given increased emphasis by county agents, this being made possible by the appropriation

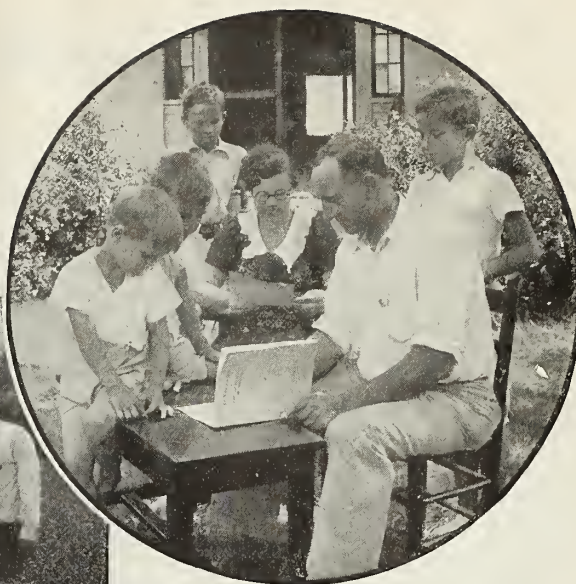
of emergency funds through the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Bureau of Animal Industry for such work. With the cooperation of extension dairymen, county agents, and representatives of State departments of agriculture, additional areas have been freed from tuberculosis by the Bureau of Animal Industry. As a result Washington, Illinois, Oregon, Virginia, and Minnesota were added to the list of States officially designated as modified accredited areas which are practically free of bovine tuberculosis.

Intensify Warfare on Livestock Diseases

An intensive program for the control of Bang's disease was started in the summer of 1934 following a specific allocation of emergency funds. About 1,000,000 head of cattle were given the agglutination test before the year closed, and some 150,000 infected animals consequently were removed. The educational program for the eradication of Bang's disease and also that for the control of mastitis through sanitary measures reached many thousand dairymen.

The cattle-tick-eradication program also was speeded up by an increase in funds from the emergency appropriation. Livestock specialists worked hard

Extension Forces Help in Chinch-Bug Fight, Disease Control, Better Livestock Feeding, and Other Everyday Problems



These pictures show a few of the varied activities resulting from demonstration work. At left an Iowa farmer is constructing a firm foundation for a barn from plans obtained from the county agent's office. In the center a county agent and a Cayuga County, N. Y., farmer inspect a field of alfalfa grown according to methods recommended in an alfalfa campaign. Above is pictured a Madison County, Miss., farmer and his wife looking over their farm records.

in the screw-worm control campaign in the Southeast where the livestock industry was threatened by the invasion of this serious pest.

Livestock Programs Far Reaching

The year 1934 was one of the most successful years in the history of livestock extension work because it broadened the horizon of the individual worker and enabled him to serve the industry in a more definite and far-reaching way.

Short feed supplies as a result of the drought forced attention to the use of substitutes and a program of conservation and economy in utilizing everything available which would tide the animal population through the emergency. Thousands of trench and other inexpensive silos were constructed for the conservation of roughages usually wasted. Great quantities of Russian thistles were harvested and stacked, and many ingenious combinations of available feeds made for the purpose of providing maintenance rations.

In the Southern States, agents assisted in educational work connected with the farm dressing of pork. The increased interest in the use of cold-storage plants for this purpose brought many calls for

advice in nine Southern States. In these States, more than 50 million pounds of farm-dressed pork were cured in approximately 600 cold-storage plants.

The nature of the adjustment and credit work helped to bring about great advances in farm management and marketing. Adjustment activities called for good farm records. A record book prepared by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration was placed in the hands of every farmer who signed adjustment contracts. In some States special State farm-account books were used in increasing numbers.

Million Farmers Keep Records

More than 51,000 farmers kept complete farm accounts in 1934, nearly double the number in 1933, and 1,008,000 kept the briefer AAA record books designed for different enterprises covered by adjustment programs. The number of farmers keeping cost-of-production records was tripled over 1933. In 1924, 89,300 farmers changed or adjusted their business practices as a result of keeping records.

One of the distinct advances made in extension work during the year was seen in the increased ability of farmers

to think and act in terms of farm business practices as related to the State, national, and international economic situation.

Emergency Feeds Reduce Losses

Due to the drought, pastures in certain areas were wiped out while feed production for the country as a whole was the shortest it has been in many years. More than 9,500 pasture demonstrations were staged in 1934. Working with extension agronomists of the various States, county agents encouraged the production of emergency feed crops seeded late in the season. They assisted in surveying and distributing forage such as soybean hay, corn stover, and lespedeza hay, and gave increased attention to helping farmers with improvement of permanent pastures. In the Eastern States progress was made by encouraging the early cutting of grass hay. County agents in 42 States worked on various phases of pasture work.

In connection with field crops, an outstanding development was made in use of

(Continued on page 94)

Agents Aid in New Credit Plan

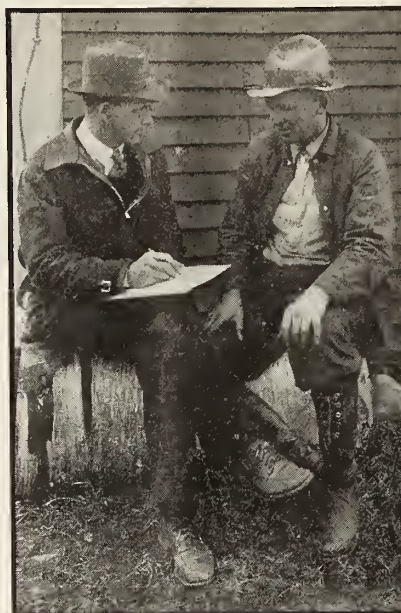
COUNTY agents and other extension workers are cooperating with the Federal Farm Credit Administration in making credit more easily available and less costly to farmers. Working with farm credit representatives, county agents have helped not only to relieve temporary financial distress but to establish a firm financial foundation for a long-time agricultural credit program.

The credit program was essential in meeting the need for short-term credit for labor, equipment, seed, feed, and supplies; as a part of the drought-relief program; and as a means of refinancing long-term mortgages contracted when prices of farm commodities and land were higher.

Aid was given in establishing debt adjustment committees in more than 2,700 counties in 44 States. These committees as arbitrators between debtor and creditor helped to scale down or otherwise adjust farm debts which had become oppressive because of the low prices of farm commodities. The Farm Credit Administration reported that more than 40,000 cases, involving approximately 200 million dollars of principal indebtedness, were adjusted so that farmers were enabled to keep their farms and homes and at the same time make a fair settlement to the creditors.

In the field of credit, the county agent assisted Farm Credit Administration representatives in a major step toward a permanent credit program by the organization of local production credit asso-

Help to Relieve Temporary Distress and to Lay Foundation for Long-time Program



County Agent Beverly, Aroostook County, Maine, explains the farm-credit program to a farmer.

ciations. These are charged with the responsibility of making short-term loans, secured by chattel mortgages or crop liens, to farmers for general agricultural purposes and rediscounting the notes of their borrowers with the Federal intermediate credit banks. Some 600 production credit associations were organized during the year.

In this connection, county agents informed representatives of the Farm Credit Administration about the agricultural conditions and the need for credit in the areas, and suggested the best locations for such associations. County agents helped to organize the associations and made producers more familiar with available credit facilities and methods of using credit to best advantage.

Help Farmers With Paper Work

The farmers asked county agents to help them in executing the forms and papers necessary in obtaining loans. All this brought many farmers to the county agent's office who had not used his services before. Borrowers also were urged by the Farm Credit Administration to adopt the farm practices recommended by the extension service, and thus were enrolled as new cooperators in the local extension program.

H. G. Clayton, district extension agent in Florida, reports briefly: "The agents have assisted farmers in obtaining loans from the Farm Credit Administration by helping them execute necessary papers and forms, supplying credit information to producers, furnishing the Farm Credit Administration with data on conditions and need for credit, and by aiding in the organization and operation of the local production credit associations."

H. W. Soule, county agent leader, Vermont, states: "Following the rather abnormal period during which the banking facilities of the State were unable to supply credit, county agents have had an exceptionally large amount of work to do with farmers, assisting them not only to obtain credit but also to refinance existing obligations. During the early part of the year, county agents contacted hundreds of farmers, giving assistance on short-time as well as long-time credit. They assisted the Farm Credit Administration in establishing production credit associations and have continued throughout the year to advise farmers on the proper use of credit."



A farmer gets his check from the secretary of his local production-credit association, his application for a loan having been approved by the loan committee composed of farmers.

Saving Soils and Farm Homes

County Agents and Emergency Agencies Combine Forces on Soils, Housing, and Forestry

THE conservation of soil, the basic resource of the agricultural industry, the rebuilding or maintenance of farm homes—in short, keeping the farm and farm home intact—were goals of several phases of the agricultural programs of the past year or two. These programs include emergency measures of the administration and a continuation of numerous educational activities on which agricultural and home-economics extension forces have been working for many years.

Without profitable soils, farm homes cannot be maintained. Some farmers were in need of rehabilitation and temporary assistance to enable them to keep their homes and to become self-supporting.

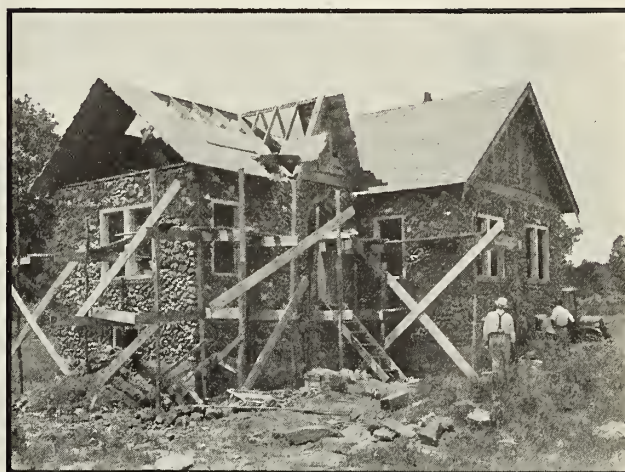
County agents functioned as technical advisers on numerous work relief projects which enabled farmers to make a little ready cash or to pay for feed or seed obtained through Federal agencies. Repair and maintenance of farmhouses and buildings were recognized as a pressing need and one on which the Government, through the Federal Housing Administration and the Extension Service, could give aid. Both home demonstration agents and agricultural agents did a lot of good work in the field of farm housing and relief.

Soil erosion by wind and water is becoming more generally recognized as a

national menace. The adjustment programs and emergency work growing out of drought and storms reinforced current efforts to protect and generally improve the soil. County agents have worked for many years with extension engineers and agronomists on a well-rounded soil-improvement program. As a result of that work, they were in position to give assistance on all the emergency programs dealing with soils.

Saving the Soil

Last year nearly 200 emergency conservation camps were engaged in erosion-control work which, as it progressed, became more and more closely allied to the county agricultural programs in terracing, use of legumes, and other cropping practices. Agricultural agents made this work more effective by organizing the farmers and assisting them to meet the standards of field protection required from them in the cooperative effort.



A Missouri farm home being constructed of native stones according to plans obtained through the county extension office.

A similar program for soil improvement, including erosion control, was conducted with the Rural Rehabilitation Division of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration to supply the facilities for erosion control and soil improvement in areas where such assistance was fundamental to rehabilitation. This work included terracing, vegetative and tree planting control measures, and obtaining, preparing, and distributing agricultural liming materials.

Indicative of the demand for this type of service is a report from E. H. Burns, a county agent of Arkansas, who says: "In both Cleburne and Stone Counties, as in all other hill counties, the majority

(Continued on page 88)



Home on the range (or elsewhere) is a happier home if the pastures and fields are not cut by gullies or washed away by sheet erosion. All the knowledge of agronomy, forestry, and engineering is being used by county agents to help farmers combat this soil thief.

An Inspiration and Six Cents

**Ambition Grew, Money Multiplied, People Worked—
A Community Clubhouse Was the Result**



MRS. J. E. CHILDERS, for several years president of the Pike County Homemakers and of the Coal Run Club, received the inspiration for a community clubhouse in January 1932, after attending farm and home week at Lexington, Ky.

On the way home from Lexington she spoke of her inspiration and passed the hat to members of the party. She received a penny and a nickel. With her inspiration and 6 cents as a beginning, the house was begun. Judge J. E. Childers, her husband, donated a plot of land on a hill near their home. He and a neighbor, John Weddington, promised the logs for the house. With these, the ground, the logs, and 6 cents, Mrs. Childers put her idea before her club, and it was enthusiastically received. Labor for the grading and foundation was obtained through the F. E. R. A.

The ladies then began a series of food sales, lawn parties, luncheons, and banquets, with the members donating a large part of the food and nearly all the labor.

During this campaign to raise money, meals were served to about 2,000 people in a dozen different organizations. A quilt was also made and sold, clearing \$55. A total of \$1,200 has been raised.

The building is made of logs and is 40 by 25 feet, with a 10-foot concrete porch on one end. The floor is of hardwood.

The house is lighted with electricity and has numerous sockets for floor lamps and electrical appliances. The chimney is made of rough stones. The arch rock of the huge open fireplace was taken from a walk at the Childers' home. On either side of the fireplace are library shelves over which are small windows.

A large supply of useful equipment consisting of dishes, silver, cooking utensils, towels, lamps, an 8-day clock, old-time organ, couch, dog irons, and other articles were received at a housewarming held soon after the completion of the house. Each homemaker purchased her own chair. The range and a cabinet for dishes occupy one corner of the room.

Gay gingham is used for the curtains on the 5 double and 3 single windows. The grounds were landscaped by N. R. Elliot, extension landscape specialist, and some of his suggestions already have been carried out. The women are still working and some day hope to add a kitchen and more furnishings.

This building serves as a meeting place for the homemakers' club, 4-H club, county homemakers' meetings, and any worth-while community activities. The members have enjoyed many informal gatherings and parties there.

The house is completely paid for and stands as an example of what can be accomplished when an inspiration is supported by united effort.

Saving Soils and Farm Homes

(Continued from page 87)

of farms are small and have not been terraced. We have given 13 terracing demonstrations in as many different communities and have run lines on 115 acres of farm land. We have had so many requests for terracing that, if it were possible, we could spend our entire time this winter on running terrace lines. However, we plan to take care of these requests by conducting a terracing program in cooperation with the local F. E. R. A. office."

Forestry Aids Relief Program

Protective tree-planting projects were popular throughout the States. Shelter-belt tree plantings to protect livestock and prevent dust blow-outs were introduced into some of the western farming areas.

Farm woods have aided in relief activities in supplying work and wood. County agents worked with extension foresters on this problem and in conducting other relief enterprises under the State Rural Rehabilitation Division.

In January and February of 1934, the Extension Service, cooperating with the bureaus of home economics and agricultural engineering, and agricultural colleges in 46 States, conducted a rural housing survey in 352 counties, which is being used as a basis for determining rural building and home-improvement needs. This survey was a useful employment project for the Civil Works Administration.

Better Farm Homes Encouraged

During the past winter and spring, extension forces in many States have been cooperating with the farm section of the Federal Housing Administration in giving rural families information on how to repair and maintain houses and other farm buildings. This work included the explanation of the housing loans which were available to farmers for financing such work.

During the present year in the program just being launched by the Rural Electrification Administration, the county agricultural agents will be particularly useful to groups of farmers seeking information and assistance from this organization for the extension of electric line service.

Progress Under the AAA

Long-Time Program Being Developed to Safeguard Farmers' Price and Consumers' Supply

CHESTER C. DAVIS

Administrator, Agricultural Adjustment Act

THREE developments of the last year are of outstanding importance in the progress of agricultural adjustment. These were the farm referenda, the shift in adjustment emphasis from reduction to controlled expansion of farm production, and the ameliorating effect of the farm program during the drought. During the year farmers cooperating with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration took steps to meet the changing needs of American agriculture and demonstrated that under the Adjustment Act they could deal with farm problems of widely different types.

Extension workers assisted materially in these developments. In helping to shape plans and to execute them, members of the Extension Service have been intimately identified with every phase of the program's advance. Their sympathetic and informed response to changes demanded by rapidly moving events, and their efficiency and industry in aiding farmers to apply new mechanisms for improvement of the economic status of agriculture have been facts of prime importance in the operation of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Farmers Vote For Adjustment

During the last year farmers on four different occasions voted upon the issue of the continuation of an adjustment program. More than 2,900,000 votes were cast by producers who expressed their desires in these referenda regarding cotton, tobacco, corn and hogs, and wheat. More than 85 percent of those votes favored continuance of the adjustment measures.

These direct decisions of producers were significant as indicating the basically democratic nature of the Agricultural Adjustment Act and its administration.

The flexibility of the act was demonstrated in the drought crisis. Reduction programs were relaxed and conservation plans were launched in order to secure the greatest possible supply of foods and feeds. The desperate plight of farmers in the drought area was partly ameliorated by benefit payments. The government cattle-buying program reduced

losses that otherwise would have been unavoidable. It served as a surplus removal measure in that it relieved commercial markets of pressure of distress stock, and prevented glutting to a point that would have ruined prices for producers outside as well as within drought areas.

Living Standards Higher

Most of the increase in farm cash income since 1932 has been income available for raising the farmers' standard of living. Cash available for living, from the 1934 cash income, after deducting wages, operating expenses, taxes, and interest, is estimated at \$3,260,000,000. This com-

pares with \$2,627,000,000 in 1933, and is more than double the total of \$1,463,000,000 available for living in 1932. During the period taxes and mortgage charges declined. Rental and benefit payments disbursed by the Government did not entail the usual cost of production, and therefore they contributed to the increase in farm cash available for living.

While the emergency adjustment programs have been primarily directed toward solving the pressing immediate problems, they have been adapted to fit changing conditions and also to merge into a permanent land policy for the Nation.

(Continued on page 95)

SALIENT FACTS

1. Farm cash income:	
1929-----	\$10,479,000,000
1932-----	4,328,000,000
1933-----	5,051,000,000
1934-----	6,100,000,000
2. Percent increase in cash income, 1934 over 1932----- 41	
3. Percentage of rental and benefit payments to farm cash income:	
1933-----	2.6
1934-----	7.3
4. Percent farm prices were of parity:	
December 1933-----	67
May 1934-----	68
December 1934-----	80
May 1935-----	84
5. Number of production-control contracts in effect:	
At close of 1933-----	1,925,000
At close of 1934-----	3,699,000
6. Rental and benefit payments, May 12, 1933, to May 1, 1935:	
Cotton-----	\$225,985,152.40
Wheat-----	163,592,147.41
Tobacco-----	33,573,077.23
Corn-hogs-----	293,354,931.17
Sugar-----	10,885,917.87
<hr/>	
Total-----	727,391,226.08



My Point of View

Homespun Rehabilitation

For the past 5 years, we have had a rehabilitation program going on in Hughes County, Okla., both rehabilitating farm people and cultivated land or pasture. We have been getting through this depression and rehabilitating our farmers by doing a little pulling on our own bootstraps.

I could tell of many examples in Hughes County: Of 2 4-H club members, a brother and sister, left orphans with 3 younger sisters, who have succeeded on the farm, paid off the mortgage, and never had to be rehabilitated; and of an ex-chief of police who left the town when he lost his job, rented a farm, and by following our best practices is rehabilitating himself.

(Leo J. McMakin, County Agent,
Hughes County, Okla.)

* * *

Perspective

We desired not to hold our local program so close to our eyes that we would be unable to see the national program as a whole. Our first step in this direction was taken in January, when we asked J. W. Sargent, county agent; and Harold A. Young, chairman of the county agricultural committee, to discuss with our 124 home-demonstration club officers and leaders "The woman's part in the new deal in agriculture." We followed this up with other topics, discussing the national situation in relation to ourselves. Much of the discussion has been of real value and has created a greater desire among the club women to understand the program. All of this will enable us in the future to make rapid strides in this direction.

(Flora Ferrill, home demonstration
agent, Pulaski County, Ark.)

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Your Page

This page is established to give agricultural agents, home demonstration agents, club agents, and other extension workers a place in the REVIEW where they may express their ideas. Keep items to less than 150 words if possible. We hope you'll make this your page.

Canned Livestock Feed

The first trench silo in Brazoria County, Tex., was built on the Monarch dairy farm near Alvin in 1932. In 1934, the total had grown to 75. It is estimated that in 1935 there will be in the neighborhood of 150 trench silos.

These silos will average 100 tons of feed each which means that approximately 30 million pounds of feed will be "canned" for future use in this county. This amount will require about 25,000 acres of forage crops and would feed one cow for 1 million days. By figuring ensilage at twice the value of prairie hay, which sold this year at an average of \$10 a ton, the approximate value of this ensilage would be \$300,000.

On a trench-silo tour held last winter, some 5 or 6 dairy farms were visited by a group of interested farmers and the county agent, and at each place the feed bill had been cut at least one-half, and the cow's production had either been increased or held to previous levels, by the use of ensilage.

The trench silo is the farmer's method of canning a surplus of feed to be used in case of feed shortage for future years, as it is a matter of record that ensilage has kept in good condition in a Mississippi silo for a period of 11 years.

(J. H. Sandlin, county agricultural
agent, Brazoria County, Tex.)



A Hobby

Some of these quaint old colonial houses just cry out to be dressed up inside and out. Is it any wonder that a home agent, called upon by the owner to offer suggestions in redecorating, loses herself in her vision of possibilities and frequently forgets that she is only an adviser? Is it any wonder that she makes excuses to call occasionally to see how things are progressing?



And then the satisfaction of the owner as she proudly displays her work of art! And the agent's thrill as she realizes that she has had a part in helping this woman.

Is it any wonder that there comes to the agent an ambition to own and redecorate one of these old houses for herself? An expensive hobby, maybe, but it's fun to plan for better times, including the return of salary cuts.

(E. Alice Melendy, home demonstration
agent, Carroll County, N. H.)

* * *

Embarrassing Moments!

Director Keffer of Tennessee came down to Jackson to talk to home-demonstration club women on landscaping their home grounds, a subject in which he is very much interested. After the meeting the home demonstration agent, Bertha Corbett, asked: "Does it seem to you worth while to come down here and talk to these women?"

"Oh, yes", he replied, "but I would have felt more so if they had not all been town women."

And the laugh was on the director, reports Miss Corbett, for in that crowd of several hundred women there were only two town women, and one of these was the wife of the county agent.

(Anonymous)

Old Meetings Given New Appeal



Home Demonstration Agent Solves Problem of Inducing Busy Mothers to Attend Child-Feeding Meetings

CHILD-FEEDING meetings had been held in Penobscot County for several years, and there had been only one difficulty—almost no one came. Often the attendance was as low as 3 or 4. Somehow the meetings lacked appeal for busy mothers.

It was very evident that something had to be done about it—but what? Many mothers of young children were in real need of the information and assistance which could be given at these meetings, but how to get them interested was the question. Some new method would have to be used to add appeal.

The plan decided upon called for conducting all-day meetings in five towns, with the morning sessions devoted to preschool clinics in charge of the Maine Public Health Association nurses. The short afternoon session was to be devoted to a talk on food selection and the development of good food habits in children.

Leaders Call on All Mothers

The first plans for the meetings were made in December at the program-planning meetings of the five towns selected to hold clinics. The selection of the towns was based on the willingness of the local farm bureau organization to co-operate in sponsoring the clinics, the number of preschool children in the communities, and the apparent need of the mothers for the information.

A committee of three women, which included the chairman and food leader of the local farm bureau and one mother of young children, was appointed in each town. The duties of these committees were to make all arrangements for the place of meeting, transportation of mothers to and from the meeting, plan the dinner to be served, and help the home demonstration agent in making calls on the mothers to be invited to the clinics.

"Our youngest boy has never been so well before as he has this summer, since I put a sun suit on him, put him out of doors, and gave him plenty of milk and vegetables, as they told me at the children's meeting. He hasn't had a cold all summer." In these words a Maine mother told the Penobscot County home demonstration agent, Charlotte Cleaves, what she thinks of the child-health nutrition clinic held in her community last year.

Penobscot County had five such clinics. Eighty-four mothers came, and 102 preschool children were examined. Forty of the mothers enrolled to follow 98 different practices. Seventy-four of these practices, it is definitely known, were followed at least 2 months.

On learning about the success of these meetings and knowing that young mothers often find it difficult to take small children with them, Miss Cleaves was asked to tell us how she succeeded so well.

The home demonstration agent made arrangements with the public health nurses to conduct the clinics. The nurses agreed to keep careful records of all the children examined, and after the clinics were over they were to send a summary of their findings and health recommendations to the home demonstration agent for use in planning later foods programs.

Letters Help Develop Interest

Ten days to two weeks before the date set for the clinics the home demonstration agent, together with one member of the local committee, made personal calls on all mothers of young children in the communities where the meetings were scheduled. In every case these mothers had been receiving a monthly letter from the county office for several months on some phase of child feeding. For this reason they were somewhat familiar with extension work, and the letters served as a good method of contact. The time, place, and object of the clinic were discussed with the women, and they were invited to attend. If a woman had no means of getting to the meetings, transportation was planned for her at the time of the call. The members of the local farm bureau were to provide taxi service.

Two letters announcing the clinics were sent to all mothers on the list—one about 10 days and the other 3 or 4 days before the clinic. In three communities the

letters were timed to arrive just before the calls on mothers were made.

Exhibits Attract Attention

The meetings were all held in local grange halls. One room was used by the nurse as a clinic and the other as a waiting room. In the second room was arranged a display of literature and some posters on child feeding, children's dishes, children's food (strained fruits and vegetables), children's clothing made from self-help patterns, and the patterns used in making the garments. Paper and shears were provided so that patterns could be copied if the women wished. Many took advantage of the opportunity.

The clinic began at 9 a. m., and each mother was given a number as she came in so she would know when her turn came. Of the 116 mothers called, 84 came to the clinic. During the clinic the home demonstration agent spent part of the time observing the nurses as they examined the children. The rest of the time was spent talking with the mothers, answering their questions in regard to the materials on display, and helping them with cutting patterns.

Individual Help is Given

At noon a simple lunch suitable for both adults and children was served by the local farm bureau. After lunch a

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An Old Method for a New Subject

New Jersey Finds Institutes Successful in Stimulating Discussion of Economic and Social Questions

AN INSTITUTE of rural economics conducted under the auspices of the Agricultural Extension Service of Rutgers University for the past 2 years is helping rural leaders to obtain a better understanding of current economic and social issues. The idea is spreading through the counties, and in the next year we expect the development of local institutes to give rural people an opportunity to discuss the "pros and cons" of various questions.

The institute of rural economics has been made possible through the cooperation and financial assistance of the American Association for Adult Education. To the chairman of that association, Dr. James E. Russell, should go the credit for initiating the project and for helping to formulate the plans for the institute.

Different Viewpoints Considered

The institute has endeavored to present both the State and the National viewpoint of issues affecting agriculture and rural life. The policies followed from the beginning have been: (1) that these issues would be faced frankly and honestly and evaluated on their merit; (2) that the best men available would be engaged to lead the discussions; (3) that since many of the subjects are controversial, different viewpoints should be presented; (4) that active participation in discussion by the members would be the method of conducting the programs.

The program of the institute for men in 1935 consisted of the following topics: Economic Planning of Land in New Jersey, One Year of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, One Year of the National Recovery Administration, Money and Banking, Labor and Social Issues, Relief, New Jersey Agricultural Problems, and Democracy and the Economic Crisis.

The program of the institute for women included: Consumer Problems, Relief, and Social Security.

For young people the program offered the following: Agriculture and Rural Life in New Jersey, The Economic Situation and Adjustment Programs, and Can World Peace be Obtained?

In 1934 the general plan for the institute consisted of State-wide and district meetings. The State-wide meet-

HERBERT J. BAKER

Director, New Jersey Extension Service

Institutes were one of the first methods used by extension workers. While neither economics nor the teaching of it is new, the idea of widespread study and discussion of national policies as they affect agriculture is a relatively new development. New Jersey has applied the old idea of the institute to the newer economic and social problems. This story describes the plan, its results, and how it may be used by the local community.

ings were held at the State college of agriculture, and attendance was limited to approximately 100. To obtain State-wide representation each county agricultural agent was asked to select 5 to 10 men whom he knew to be leaders in their respective communities, and an invitation to participate in the institute was extended to them by the director. Acceptance was practically unanimous. County agricultural agents also were requested to attend as regular members of the institute. All-day meetings with morning, afternoon, and evening sessions were held on each Monday of 8 successive weeks.

Plan of the Institute

Following the day session at the college, district meetings were arranged in several parts of the State for each night of that week. The same general topic discussed at the college on Monday, and the same speakers made up the program at the district meetings.

The women's institute followed the same general plan as that described for the men, except that evening sessions and district meetings were not held for the women. In 1935 the same procedure was followed as in 1934, except that the evening session for the men's meeting at the college and the district night meetings were abandoned and two additional institutes for young people between the ages of 16 and 25 were conducted.

At each session of the institute literature was made available, and reference books and pamphlets were recommended for reading and study. The State library and county libraries cooperated by having on exhibit a display of books on economics and sociology. At the end of the 1934 institute the principal addresses were printed in bulletin form and distributed to the members. This year we again hope to issue this material in a printed report which will be sent to all members of the institute.

Vote to Continue Institute

All those who participated in the institute showed unusually keen interest and participated freely in discussions. At the end of the 1934 session the vote of both men and women was unanimous for a similar institute in 1935. Comments of persons attending the institute indicate that the discussions did succeed in developing a better understanding of economic and social issues. The two following quotations are typical of some of the comments:

"Would it be possible for you to help plan a series of 3 or 4 sessions for Bloomfield? Perhaps someone could meet with a representative committee from the various organizations of the town and help plan an educational adult program."

"Although I did not agree with all the several speakers had to say, my curiosity was excited to read more on the problems, discuss them with others and, in general, enlarge my viewpoint. The discussions around my own dinner table interested my son—a high-school senior—and several books were read and discussed. * * * I feel that round-table institutes of this type have a vital place in the service to the county."

Idea Spreads To Communities

Some of the women delegates and county home demonstration agents later held county institutes patterned after the sessions at Rutgers. This tendency is constantly growing. One newspaper has of its own accord sponsored a series of meetings to discuss some of the same topics and has run a forum column in its paper.

Unquestionably, the institutes were exceedingly valuable to our extension

agents and specialists and have better fitted them for their activities as leaders in a program of adult education.

State-wide institutes for men, women, and young people will be continued another year. Committees are giving special consideration to development of plans for local group discussions. A variety of plans for conducting these local economics institutes probably will be tried out. Those who have participated in the State institute for the last 2 years will act as local leaders and foster the local institutes.

Several conclusions may be drawn from our experience of the last 2 years. The interest in these economics institutes, as well as interest exhibited in many other ways, shows clearly that progressive men and women are thinking seriously on problems related to economic and social welfare.

Our educational institutions, therefore, have an obligation to strengthen their research, resident instruction, and extension teaching in these fields of study. It is clear, I believe, that research and experiments in economic and social planning must proceed in conjunction with educational programs. It is apparent that in our programs of adult education there is urgent need for a wide variety of experiments similar to the Rutgers Economics Institutes.

Study of Methods Needed

We need to explore further the possibilities of using local volunteer leaders in conducting adult-education programs and how they may be utilized most effectively. We need to investigate and experiment with the possibilities of cooperative relationships between our educational agencies and organizations such as the Grange, Farm Bureau, women's clubs, parent-teacher associations, and civic clubs in promoting and conducting adult education. We need more demonstrations that will emphasize to administrators of our educational institutions the advantages and practicability of cooperative programs in adult education.

Finally, I wish to suggest that the Cooperative Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics, because of its unique relationship to rural people and their organizations and to governmental agencies, should be expected to take the same position of leadership in fostering sound economic and social thinking as it has done so successfully in improving agricultural production.



Farmers, Westward Ho!



MORE than 1,500 new settlers, principally from the Midwest, have moved to Oregon farms within the last year, a survey conducted by the Oregon Extension Service in early April revealed. The number of new families coming to the State ranged from comparatively few in some counties to more than 200 in others. They came seeking enlarged opportunity for building a home and a farm business, the survey showed.

These new settlers called at the offices of county agents for information on the agriculture of their new location. For the most part they were sturdy, serious-minded experienced farmers who had both the means and the courage to pull up stakes and seek a new location.

They knew much about the agriculture of the midwestern prairies, but little about prunes, pears, walnuts, strawberries, small fruits, vegetable crops, forage, and grain varieties adapted to Oregon. Opportunity to render service and to help these newcomers adjust themselves to their new environment was seen as a job for the extension forces. New conditions, new soil types, new agricultural enterprises, and new crop varieties had to be learned.

Extension schools for new settlers were arranged in the various counties. The cooperation of the chambers of commerce was obtained. In some counties more than 200 settlers and their wives

participated in the meetings. At the first series of meetings spring crops and farm gardens, particularly timely subjects for early spring were discussed. At the second series of meetings horticultural crops and pest control, poultry, and dairying were the subjects considered. The meetings were arranged and conducted by the county agents with at least two subject-matter extension specialists leading the discussions.

In order to stimulate interest in meetings, prizes were offered in some counties. In Polk County, for instance, the Dallas Chamber of Commerce provided a room-sized rug for the woman who brought the best picture of the home she left to come to Oregon. Prizes also were given to the husband and wife present who had the largest family, and to the newcomer who had the largest variety of fruit on his new farm.

In order to make the plan of aid to new settlers cover the entire State, in counties where there had been only a few newcomers the county agents made special farm visits to these new settlers to assist with their problems and to offer the service and facilities of the county extension office.

After harvest season this fall a series of meetings on fall crops and other similar subjects of interest for new settlers is planned.

Old Meetings Given New Appeal

(Continued from page 91)

film strip, "Build Early for Straight, Strong Bones", was shown by the home demonstration agent. The film brought out the important points in regard to the necessity of fruits, vegetables, and milk in the child's diet, the time of adding the different foods, the reasons they were needed, and a few points on how good food habits could be developed in the child. Following this, enrollment cards listing recommended practices in child feeding were given to each mother. An explanation of the card followed, and

the agent helped each mother to check those practices which should be adopted. Adequate gardens, canning, and storing of fruits and vegetables for winter use were emphasized.

Information obtained from the clinics indicated that in general too little of fruits, vegetables, and milk were being used. It also was evident that cod-liver oil should be given in winter, sun baths in summer, and that the children should be trained much earlier in the development of sleep, toilet, and food habits. This information was especially valuable as a basis for child-feeding work to be done later.

The Farm Program on a Hundred Fronts

(Continued from page 85)

the supplies of hybrid seed corn now available. The agents assisted in the placing of demonstrations in which hybrid corn planted in comparison with the farmers' best seed invariably brought larger production in favor of the hybrid corn. The fact that, in many instances, this corn has been developed to withstand insect pests and unfavorable weather conditions, has tended to make hybrid corn popular with the most progressive corn producers.

Winter legumes have continued to be an important part of the program on soil improvement in the Southern States. They are valuable both for soil improvement and for erosion control. Alabama is a good example of increased interest in this work. A total of 6,649,399 pounds of winter legume seed was used in the State, an increase of 518,666 pounds over the amount used in 1933.

County agents continued to emphasize the value of soybeans and lespedeza, forage crops which, although affected by drought conditions, carried through where many other feed crops were destroyed.

Gardeners Demand Help

The impetus given to home gardens and better care of the home orchard kept county agents busy answering calls for information. They assisted extension horticulturists with garden schools, both for home gardeners and for leaders. They advised with regard to varieties of vegetables which might most profitably be grown and gave information on methods of growing, harvesting, storing, packing, grading, and marketing the products. Information was given on pruning methods and other practices connected with home and commercial orchards.

County agents gave much appreciated service in connection with the development of simple landscaping plans for farm homes. This work, designed to give the rural home a more attractive setting, had a wide appeal.

Dairymen Reduce Costs

In the field of dairying, county agents gave increased attention to improvement of pasture and roughage, breeding, dairy herd-improvement association testing, 4-H dairy calf club work, improvement of the quality of dairy stock, and the marketing of milk and its products. Agents reported 1,447 herd-improvement associa-

tions organized or reorganized in 1934, a gain of more than 400.

The milk licenses which largely grew out of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration activities have contributed materially to the good of the dairy program by stabilizing and increasing returns to dairy farmers.

As the drought-affected area increased, feed prices advanced at a rapid rate, making it necessary for the feeding program to receive a great deal of attention. Improved pastures, use of adapted legumes, early cutting of hay, emergency pastures, and pasture rotation have been stressed and will continue to be a major phase at least for the next few years.

In the past year, several States have included farm-management records with the dairy herd-improvement association work.

Because poultry is raised on a very high percentage of farms in the United States, the county agents have a large number of routine requests for help on this subject. These questions cover sanitary measures for disease control, feed-

ing of adequate rations, methods of culling, and selecting breeding pens and plans for poultry-house construction or remodeling.

4-H Clubs On The Job

Due to the various emergency programs, it was difficult for county agents to give as much time as usual to 4-H club plans. This resulted in a slight decrease in club membership as well as completed project work. Combined membership in boys' and girls' 4-H clubs last year, however totaled 916,000, or only 5,000 less than in 1933. Local leaders, through their associations or 4-H club councils, assumed additional responsibilities for the club program, offsetting to some extent the lack of time that county agents could give to it.

Club plans have been adjusted to meet existing situations. These young people and their leaders are discussing the present-day problems as they relate to agriculture, thus equipping themselves to play a prominent part in land-utilization programs, and to be leaders in farm and rural community organization. Either as part of the general 4-H club program or as definite projects, the following subjects have been emphasized: Wildlife conservation, soil erosion, forestry, range management, home beautification, and farm-record keeping.

You Know What You and Your Neighbor Agents Have Done But

Do You Know?

EACH county agent knows what he did in his own county last year. He knows how he and his brother agents in neighboring counties worked on the adjustment programs, drought, farm credit, rural rehabilitation, and other phases of the emergency program. He knows how he struggled to keep demonstrations and traditional educational activities going.

The agent knows how he came to the office early and worked late, how ragged his nerves were on certain days, how he couldn't go on that fishing trip when he needed a vacation. Unfortunately many phases of the agents' work cannot be adequately told. But there is a national picture, cold and uninteresting though it may look in type, in which the county agent is the prominent figure.

Do you know that county agricultural agents all over the United States—

Wrote 7,432,560 individual letters.

Distributed 7,795,000 bulletins.

Gave 6,316 radio talks.

Had 399,000 news stories published.

Received 5,280,707 telephone calls.

Received 20,421,598 office callers.

Visited 788,000 farms or homes.

Held 67,197 training meetings for 870,822 men leaders and 114,756 women leaders.

Conducted 13,941 tours, achievement days, and encampments.

Held 127,800 method demonstration meetings with attendance of 2,622,000.

Helped the extension program in agriculture and home economics to influence 3,566,600 farm families to adopt some improved practice.

Progress Under the AAA

(Continued from page 89)

In 1934 millions of rented acres were put into food and feed crops for home use. Soil-improving and erosion-preventing crops and new pasture and meadow crops were planted on many of the contracted acres. Some land was utilized for planting woodlots. The aim was to restore and conserve fertility on acres that had been intensively and wastefully cultivated to produce surpluses that depressed farmers' prices.

Seek Sound Land Policy

Now that accumulated surpluses have been reduced or eliminated, there still remains the problem of maintaining a balance between production and demand. Looking toward a permanent land policy, it is necessary to take account of an excess of 15 to 30 million acres of crop land of average quality. A sound land program can reduce part of this surplus acreage by transferring submarginal farm land to public uses not involving agricultural production. For the most part, however, the effect of this excess acreage should be offset by such plantings in the more important farming regions as will halt erosion and soil depletion and will guarantee a more liberal supply of hay and forage.

To this end the 1935 wheat program was modified to permit more hay and forage crops and new seedings of pastures and legumes. The 1935 corn-hog program emphasized pasture and meadow as replacements for the contracted acreage. The cotton and tobacco programs for 1935 provided, as in 1934, for optional use of contracted acres for home food and feed crops and for erosion-preventing and soil-improving crops, and farm woodlots.

Plan Aims at Adequate Reserves

A continuing policy for agriculture and for the general welfare should provide for adequate reserves of the major agricultural commodities to safeguard farmers from the price-depressing effects of surpluses and to protect consumers from shortages. The proposed ever-normal granary plan may afford a practical device for achieving these ends.

In the future, provision should be made to meet problems of regional agriculture. New programs should aim at an equitable and efficient distribution of production among the various agricultural regions and among individual farms.



During a lull in wheat harvest and hauling activities, the county agent in Cache County, Utah, took the opportunity to explain the new wheat production-control program to a group of producers.

En Route to Stabilized Production

(Continued from page 82)

What County Agents Did

In some Southern States adjustment programs affecting six commodities were advanced. Yet, there as elsewhere, county agents kept straight the many details of the various contracts and the necessary supporting documents. They answered all the calls, gave the information and explanations farmers needed, trained committeemen, held meeting after meeting, conference after conference, and helped the county production-control associations to start functioning. The agents helped to clear production data, reviewed evidence of contracts, budgets, followed compliance, and held referenda.

AAA Provided Financial Aid

Much credit is due the Agricultural Adjustment Administration for the financial aid given to the Extension Service. It is true that the States and counties gave all they could to help the Extension Service handle the work. Some counties which were not employing county agents gave funds for that purpose. The financial resources of some States and counties, however, had been so weakened by the economic situation that they could not contribute so fully as in the past.

The funds allotted to the Extension Service by the AAA assured the employment of a county agent in every agricultural county, and the employment of assistant agents in the larger agricultural counties. These funds also made possible the employment of additional supervisors

as well as provision for extra supplies and travel expense. The following table shows the number of supervisors and county agents employed in 1934 as compared with 1933:

	Dec. 31, 1933	Dec. 31, 1934
Agent supervisors and assistants.	120	166
County agents.....	2,566	2,794
Assistant county agents.....	289	379

A more specific example of the part county agents took in adjustment programs is found in Iowa, the Nation's largest hog-producing State, where approximately 176,000 corn-hog contracts were signed. The 100 regular county agents and the 53 emergency assistant agents conducted 9,815 meetings to explain various phases of the corn and hog production-control program before a total attendance of more than 590,000 people. These 153 agents spent 14,845 working days, or an average of 97 each, on the corn-hog program—and they were long days.

From William Peterson, director of extension in Utah, comes a comment which indicates the increasing esteem in which county agents are held: "Two counties that had been forced to discontinue their agents for lack of funds paid the expenses of neighboring agents to come in and help them with the corn-hog program. Officers of wheat and corn-hog control associations in counties without agents have sensed the need for them and are working to obtain county agents."

County Agents—Today and Tomorrow

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and soil-improvement crops as well as pastures, terracing, improvement of housing, rural electrification, farm sanitation, and home and community building, are only a few of the projects on which county agents and farmers have worked.

Many Programs Require Attention

The various production adjustment programs, the large activities in drought-relief work, rural emergency relief, land use and conservation, farm housing, farm credit, reforestation, wildlife conservation all received the attention of the agent and every bit of time he could give to them. In these programs county agents represented directly the Federal and State agencies, acting as advisers and assistants in organization and educational activities and functioning more largely in a local administrative capacity. They had to spend more time in the office to plan the work carefully, had to train local leaders to handle details of procedure and to exert more active leadership in the field work.

Requests for information and help very often overtaxed the capacity of the agent's office to handle them. More clerical help, more equipment, more office space were sorely needed. During 1934, office calls from farmers jumped from 8,007,000 to 21,489,000. Telephone calls of which there were 3,675,000 recorded by county agents in 1933 were doubled in 1934.

The adjustment and drought relief projects alone required the selection of active, intelligent community committee-men, all of whom were thrown into close contact with the county agents. Thus leaders among rural people learned to know and appreciate the work of county agents in a way that would have been impossible under any other era. Men serving as local leaders assisted with various phases of the extension program during the year. Too much credit cannot be given these men for their part in carrying the agricultural programs forward.

Looking Ahead

In a speech made before the Land-Grant College Association in November 1934, Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture, spoke of the need for a mechanism for a continuing agricultural policy, adding that it would seem that the extension workers "* * * * * guided by the

scientific research in the experiment stations and in the Department of Agriculture, and also guided to some extent by the state of public opinion as they find it, should be able to help formulate a policy which can be with us, across the administrations."

The degree of participation of county agents during 1934 in long-time planning programs, land utilization, resettlement, and the many projects having to do with development of economic and social as well as production phases of rural endeavor gives confidence that this will be done. National planning programs natu-

rally resolve into regional plans. And in the last analysis the regional program must be developed from the standpoint of conditions existing in the county and community. It is evident that with the forward-looking policy of the administration in regard to agriculture and rural life, the county agent will be drawn more and more into the program.

Studies resulting from this work will mean new demands on research agencies of the Department and the Federal Government. It is evident that this is already coming about. Throughout the States, the undesirable rural situation of the past few years has served to draw extension and research more closely together in the development of a coordinated program. This will undoubtedly continue in future years as increased attention is given to a long-time agricultural policy.

Drought Diary of a Modern Agent

(Continued from page 83)

bers." Talk about squeezing blood out of a turnip! Reports from elsewhere indicate similar situation.

September 23—Farmers wanting to know about Federal credit (some warrant actual relief measures) for feed purchases. And then they want to know where they can get the feed! Have located some.

September 29—Survey showed 85 percent of normal livestock numbers and only 45 percent normal feed supply.

October 1—Started today to collect all dope on use of low-quality corn fodder, foxtail hay, and other available forage to make the short grain supply last as long as possible and keep as many livestock as possible. Will broadcast it in every way possible.

October 11—Starting survey of seed supplies on farms and amount farmers will need next spring. When that's finished will acquaint farmers with situation and take orders for seed to be sold by Government through seed stocks committee.

October 12—Arranged with dealer in each town to act as agent of county committee and FERA in handling seed and feed shipped in by the Federal agency.

October 25—Just can't keep this diary up every day. Feed situation still serious. Later check shows 86 percent of normal livestock and only 40 percent normal feed supply.

December 3—Seed survey shows we'll need a lot more oats, corn, clover, and soybean seed than we have in county.

December 5—Had another cattle-buying day. Got 150 head, many farmers getting as much from local buyers as Government is paying. That's O. K. as long as they balance feed and livestock numbers. Roads are bad, too.

December 10—Understand farmers of United States contracted only 86,000 tons of stover and fodder up to November. Lots of our farmers have sold theirs locally before committing it to AAA.

January 25 (1935)—Nothing much new. Situation about same. Been busy on corn and hog campaign.

January 30—Campaign to conserve pork and beef (for which there isn't feed) by canning it for home use is going over big. Newspapers and radio station certainly have supported us straight through drought work, like everything else. Still giving out information and making plans on feed and seed—when not working on corn-hog, credit, soils, or something else.

April 15—Helping on seed loans.

April 20—One thing to be thankful for: We aren't having our soil blown away. In duststorm area I hear the agents are having a time helping farmers to protect topsoil from wind. Wonder if we're in for another drought?

May 15—Drought apparently broken. But we've still a lot of work to do to repair the damage. Slipping off tomorrow for a week's vacation—first in 22 months.



A Message

To All County Agents

As THE local representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture you may look with pride on the part you have played in helping farmers meet the problems of the past year. The success of the various emergency activities alone are evidence of your ability to acquaint farmers with the provisions of the programs, to help them organize, and to assist them in administering their affairs.

At the beginning of 1934, agriculture faced the necessity not only of meeting an immediate emergency but of starting social and economic reconstruction of a permanent nature. This job demanded the coordinated assistance of all Federal and State agencies. Fortunately, we had the extension services with their corps of some 2,500 county agricultural agents and a background of 20 years of experience with which to contact farmers.

As the year progressed you not only continued to assist with production adjustment, credit, soils, and similar programs but willingly extended your hours of work and assumed new duties to help farmers withstand and overcome the devastating effects of the drought. While helping with the emergency programs your traditional demonstration and educational work helped farmers meet the ever-present problems of agriculture.

Because of the help you gave, farmers enjoy increased incomes, they have a better understanding of national and international economic situations, they are more alert to the changes which may affect agriculture, and their programs of production are less static.

All of us who know the progress made by agriculture during the past 18 months commend all of you county agents for the part you played in the program.

H a w a l l a c e

Secretary of Agriculture.



Slightly higher prices for Department film strips during the next fiscal year go into effect July 1, 1935.

HELP THE AUDIENCE TO SEE YOUR POINT WITH FILM STRIPS

New Film Strip Prices

Prices for Department of Agriculture film strips will range from 50 cents to \$1.10 each, depending on the number of frames. Most of them, however, will sell for 50 or 65 cents each. Drastic reductions in prices will prevail when film strips are purchased in quantities of 10 or more copies of any one subject. More than 250 series with complete lecture notes are now available.

For special series made from local photographs sent in by extension workers, the cost is only 10 cents per frame—the same as the price for last year. This includes the negative and one positive print.

Write for authorization blanks, price list, and instructions for purchase; also for further information about preparing your own film-strip series.

The contractor for the fiscal year 1935-36 will be Dewey & Dewey, Kenosha, Wis. This firm has had the contract since 1932.

E X T E N S I O N S E R V I C E

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C.